GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:22
ANSWERED ON:18.07.2016
Projects for Classical Languages
Antony Shri Anto

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the languages in the country which have been granted the status of classic language;

(b) whether the Government is implementing any financial assistance scheme for supporting various projects for the classical languages;

(c) if so, the details thereof including the amount granted to each classical language during each of the last three years, year-wise and amount-wise;

(d) whether the Government has received any proposal regarding the projects related to classical language during the last three years; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the response of the Government thereto?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR CULTURE & TOURISM
(DR. MAHESH SHARMA)

(a): Tamil, Sanskrit, Kannada, Telugu, Malayalam and Odia languages have been granted the status of classical languages so far.

(b)&(c): Yes Madam. Regarding Classical Sanskrit, there are 3 Deemed to be Universities, fully funded by MHRD for promotion of Sanskrit. Of these three, Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan, Delhi has the schemes of Non-Formal Sanskrit Education, Financial Assistance to Sanskrit Dictionary Project, Financial Assistance to Publications, Financial Assistance to Sanskrit Teaching, Seminars, Fellowships etc. Regarding Classical Tamil, Central Institute of Classical Tamil, Chennai has been providing financial assistance for the scheme of Book Publication, Short Term Projects, Seminars, Training Programmes, Fellowships etc. Regarding Classical Kannada and Classical Telugu, orientation programmes and workshops have been organized after the Centres of Excellence of these respective languages were taken up as a project by Central Institute of Indian Languages, Mysuru. The details of the funds allocated for the development and promotion of classical languages are as follows:

Language/ year Funds Allocated (Rs. In lakh)

	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
Sanskrit	20886.98	21281.00	16917.39
Tamil	900.00	800.00	1195.00
Kannada	218.00	100.00	100.00
Telugu	218.00	100.00	100.00

(d)&(e): Yes Madam. Proposals from State Government of Karnataka, Kerala and Odisha have been received for setting up of Centres of Excellence of studies in respective classical languages in their respective States and the State Governments have been requested to allot a suitable land/ built up space for setting up of these centres. With the objective to promoting classical languages, Presidential Awards are being given for scholars in Sanskrit & Tamil and from year 2016 onwards Presidential Awards are also instituted to Telugu, Kannada, Malayalam and Odia. UGC has agreed for setting up of the professional chairs in Indian Classical Languages namely, Tamil, Telugu, Kannada, Malayalam and Odia in Central Universities.

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